Umetco Minerals Corporation



P.O. BOX 1029
GRAND JUNCTION, COLORADO 81502 **1** (303) 245-3700

July 23, 1990

Utah Department of Health Division of Environmental Health Bureau of Water Pollution Control P.O. Box 16690 Salt Lake City, UT 84116-0690

Attention: Permits and Compliance Section

Dear Sirs:

Re: UPDES Permit UT-0023922 Rim Mine, Utah Umetco Minerals Corporation

Umetco Minerals hereby submits the second quarter 1990 discharge monitoring report for UPDES Permit UT-0023922 for the Rim Mine located in San Juan County, Utah.

The effluent during April was at a pH of 6.0. Subsequent sampling during the quarter showed that the pH level increased to near 7. The pH of the raw influent has dropped to between 6 and 7 from a historical average of 8.6.

The compliance sampling for the quarter indicates that the soluble Radium-226 concentrations present in the discharge at the time of the April and May sampling, 13 and 6.6 pCi/L, respectively, were greater than the UPDES Permit mean standard of 3 pCi/Liter. The total average radium-226 concentration in April was 15 pCi/L while the May level was 8.6 pCi/L. The Rim mine did not discharge solutions from the treatment system during June as net lake evaporation from the facilities ponds exceeded the flow rate to the system.

The treatment system operation was reviewed during April and again in May to determine if any operational deficiencies were the source of the elevated Radium levels. No deviations or deficiencies in operation performance were observed. The Barium Chloride injection system was operating at normal levels with observed adequate settling times in the retention ponds. Additional sampling and analysis of the treatment system intake supply is to be undertaken to determine if the raw Radium and the

Sulfate concentrations have changed enough to reduce the effectiveness of the current Barium-Radium-Sulfate precipitation treatment. Lab bench tests will also be completed to re-evaluate the required levels of BaCl needed to adequately precipitate the Radium-226.

Other activities underway may minimize the future discharge of liquid effluents from the Rim Mine. The current principal mine water source is an aquifer zone located above the uranium ore body that was being drained by an uncased mine ventilation borehole. As of mid-July, Umetco has proceeded to encase the borehole to reduce the inflow of water into the mine, resulting in greatly reducing the flow to the mine dewatering treatment system.

If there are any questions, please contact me at 303-245-3700.

Sincerely,

Wiels B. Hawood

Niels B. Haubold

Manager of Mines

Encl.

NBH/jac

Certified-Return Receipt Requested

cc: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency 999 8th Street, Suite 500 8WM-C Denver, Colorado 80202-2405

bcc: R. K. Jones

R. F. Barnett

A. S. Bates

R. G. Tisch

PERMITTEE NAME/ADDRESS (Include Facility Name/Location if different) LIME Umetco Minerals Corporation	^I NATIONAL POLLUTANT DISCHARGE E DISCHARGE MONITORIN	
NAME UMETCO MINERALS CORPORATION	(2.16)	(17.10)

P. O. Box 1029

Grand Junction, Colorado 81502

ADDRESS

Form Approved. OMB No. 2040-0004 Approval expires 9-30-85

(17-19)U1-0023922 001PERMIT NUMBER DISCHARGE NUMBER

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OMMENT AND EXPLANATION OF ANY VIOLATIONS (Reference all attachments here)